

Peter Brown

1205 Wharton Street, Philadelphia PA 19147-4509 (215) 334-0431
Mail: peterb@erols.com

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Dear Peg and Mark,

While I know that you both mean well, neither my brother, my sister-in-law, nor I have any wish for the memorial service for my father to be turned into any kind of family reunion. Don't misunderstand me, I am very grateful and deeply moved that Ruth (for instance) is coming in for this -- that means a lot to me. But for us this is a solemn occasion and we *are* in mourning.

We are not interested in seeing a long line of relatives we have not seen or heard from in close to 40 years, who have not displayed any interest in either my father and my brother or myself over that period of time. This is the last thing we want at this time.

I do realize that other such occasions have been a time of such reuniting, which is fine, if that is what the involved family at the time desired. However, it is *not* what my immediate family desires.

This service is simply for me to put closure on the event of my father's death and to commemorate his life. Period. It is for immediate family, my close friends and other people Tony, his wife and I want there. That of course includes cousins such as Ruth and Maude who have memories of my father from their childhood, the way (for instance) that I have memories of Josh from my childhood.

Mark, I appreciate your writing the (NY) Stone family and anyone else you may have contacted. If they respond to you, feel free to give them my

address if they wish to send a card or letter. But that is all we want or expect from anyone else at this time.

I do not want you to make any attempt to try to change my mind on this. My brother is extremely busy with his business at the moment and quite frankly under a great deal of stress. I do not want him contacted at all concerning this as it would only serve to aggravate the situation and make us both extremely angry.

I apologize for being blunt, but my father's death and the events directly preceding it have been an intense and draining experience in every way. And there is still much that I have to deal with in settling the matters of my father's estate which is consuming a great deal of my energy and time.

I simply ask that you both understand that this is a very sensitive time for us and respect our wishes.